

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1-25 (canceled)

26. (previously presented) A plant container comprising a receptacle having a top opening, a closed bottom, and a top flap of sufficient size to cover an associated plant placed in the receptacle;

the receptacle and flap consisting essentially of a front panel and a back panel, each of the front and back panels being a right isosceles triangular shape having hypotenuse edges and two perpendicular edges,

the front and back panels are essentially permanently sealed along their hypotenuse edges and along one of their perpendicular edges,

wherein when the container is in its expanded state,

the seam joining the hypotenuse edges extends centrally through a rear portion of the receptacle and through the top flap;

the seam joining the perpendicular edges extends centrally through a front portion of the receptacle; and

the unjoined perpendicular edges partially define the receptacle's open top and outer edges of the top flap.

27. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 26, wherein the panels are made of at least one suitable film from the group including polyolefins, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyesters, polyethylene-terephthalate, and nylons.

28-33 (canceled)

34. (previously presented) A method of making a batch of the plant container set forth in claim 26, said method comprising the steps of:

overlaying a first web and a second web of a suitable film material;

forming essentially permanent sealing seams between the first and second webs corresponding to a desired shape of the panels, wherein the forming step includes

forming transverse seams across the webs which are separated by a distance equal to the length of the unjoined edge; and forming diagonal seams between adjacent transverse seams thereby forming two containers between each pair of transverse seams; and

dividing the so-seamed webs into the containers, wherein the desired shape of the panels is a right triangular shape whereby after the forming and dividing steps each panel includes a joined hypotenuse edge, a joined perpendicular edge and an unjoined perpendicular edge.

35. (previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 34, wherein the panels have the same right isosceles triangle shape wherein the distance between transverse seams is substantially the same as the width of the webs.

36-61 (canceled)

62. (previously presented) A plant container comprising a receptacle having a top opening for insertion of a plant therein and a top flap selectively folded over the top opening to cover the receptacle;

wherein the container is formed from two panels, each panel having a right isosceles triangular shape, including a hypotenuse edge and two perpendicular edges, wherein the two panels are joined together by essentially permanent seams to each other along their hypotenuse and along one of their perpendicular edges

and each of the panels forms half of the receptacle and half of the top flap, wherein when the container is in its expanded state:

the seam joining the edges of the hypotenuse edges extends centrally through a rear portion of the receptacle and through the top flap;

the seam joining the edges of the perpendicular edges extends centrally through a front portion of the receptacle; and

the unjoined perpendicular edges partially define the receptacle's open top and outer edges of the top flap.

63-69 (canceled)

70. (amended) A plant container comprising a receptacle having a top opening, a bottom, [and] a top flap of sufficient size to cover a plant placed in the receptacle, and a fold between the receptacle and the flap, the receptacle and flap including a front panel and a back panel, each of the front and back panels including a first edge connected together and a second edge connected together, ~~a fold that is the~~ fold being transverse to the first edge and that does not intersect the second edge, the top flap being formed by a portion of the front panel and a portion of the back panel the top flap comprising a portion of the first panel and the portion of the second panel folded along the fold, the fold having one end at a location between the first and second edges of the front panel and a second end at a location between the first and second edges of the rear panel and passing through only one of the sealed edges, whereby the flap includes a portion of the front panel and a portion of the back panel and a portion of the one sealed edge.

71. (previously presented) A plant container as in claim 70 wherein the first edge has a length that is longer than a length associated with the second edge.

72. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 71, wherein each panel has a triangular shape.

73. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 72, wherein the first edge of each panel are sealed together to form a first seam and the second seam of each panel are sealed together to form a second seam.

74. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 73, wherein the first and second seams are essentially permanent.

75. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 74, wherein when the container is in its expanded state:

the first seam extends centrally through a portion of the receptacle and through the top flap; and

the second seam extends centrally through another portion of the receptacle; and unjoined perpendicular edges of the front and back panels partially define the receptacle's open top and edges of the top flap.

76. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 75, wherein the panels are made of a suitable film.

77. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 76, wherein the suitable film is selected from the group consisting essentially of polyolefins, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyesters, polyethylene-terephthalate, and nylons.

78. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 70, wherein the panels lay flat against each other when the container is in a collapsed state whereby the container may be compactly stored until ready for use.

79. (previously presented) A series of the plant containers as set forth in claim 70, wherein the containers are aligned and stacked in a pack.

80. (previously presented) A method of making a batch of the plant containers set forth in claim 70, said method comprising the steps of:

- overlaying a first web and a second web of a suitable film material;
- forming essentially permanently sealed seams between the first and second webs corresponding to the desired shape of the panels; and
- dividing the so-seamed webs into the containers.

81. (previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 80, wherein the seam-forming and the dividing steps are performed substantially simultaneously by a hot implement.

82. (previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 80, further comprising the step of aligning and stacking the containers in a collapsed state to form a pack for use at a consumer site.

83. (amended) A plant container comprising a receptacle having a top opening, a bottom, and a top flap ~~of sufficient size to substantially cover a plant placed in the receptacle, the container being formed from a front panel and a back panel,~~ the receptacle and top flap being formed from a portion of each of the front and back panels, each of the front and back panels including at least a first edge and a second edge, wherein the first edges of the panels and the second edges of the panels are connected to each other to form first seams and second seams, respectively, and the receptacle and flap are separated by a fold line that passes through the first seam and not the second seam.

84. (previously presented) The plant container of claim 83, wherein the front and back panels are triangular.

85. (previously presented) The plant container of claim 84, wherein the first edges and the second edges of the front and back panels are substantially permanently connected to each other.

86. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 85, wherein the panels are made of a suitable film.

87. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 85, wherein the suitable film is selected from the group consisting essentially of polyolefins, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyesters, polyethylene-terephthalate, and nylons.

88. (previously presented) A plant container as set forth in claim 83, wherein the panels lay flat against each other when the container is in a collapsed state whereby they may be compactly stored until ready for use.

89. (previously presented) A series of the plant containers as set forth in claim 83, wherein the containers are aligned and stacked in a pack.

90. (currently amended) A plant container as set forth in claim 83, wherein when the container is in its expanded state:

[a] the first seam joining the first edges of the front and back panels extends centrally through a portion of the receptacle and through the top flap; and

[a] the second seam joining the second edges of the front and back panels extends centrally through another portion of the receptacle; and an unjoined edge of each of the front and back panels partially define the open top of the receptacle.

91. (previously presented) A method of making a batch of the plant containers set forth in claim 83, said method comprising the steps of:

overlaying a first web and a second web of a suitable film material;

forming essentially permanent sealing seams between the first and second webs corresponding to the desired shape of the panels; and

dividing the so-seamed webs into the containers.

92. (previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 90, wherein the seam-forming and the dividing steps are performed substantially simultaneously by hot wires and/or hot dies.

93. (previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 80, further comprising the step of similarly aligning and stacking the containers in a collapsed state to form a pack for use at a consumer site.